GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:220
ANSWERED ON:25.07.2006
CEPA BETWEEN INDIA AND JAPAN
Gaikwad Shri Eknath Mahadeo;Singh Shri Kirti Vardhan

Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether India and Japan are entering into Comprehensive Economic Partnership Agreement(CEPA) as reported in the Times of India dated 15 June, 2006;

(b) if so, the details and facts thereof;

(c) whether the proposed agreement is likely to help the existing agreement between India and other Asian countries; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH)

(a) to (d) India and Japan constituted a Joint Study Group to focus on measures required for comprehensive expansion of trade in goods, trade in services, investment flows and other areas of economic relations between the two countries. The Joint Study Group finalized its report which was submitted to the two Prime Ministers at St. Petersburg on July 17, 2006. It recommends that the Government of India and Japan launch an inter-governmental negotiation to develop an Economic Partnership Agreement (EPA)/Comprehensive Economic Partnership Agreement(CEPA) within a reasonable period of time.